

Date Mailed March 3, 1998
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BEFORE THE  
  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Northern States Power Company (Wisconsin) for  
Authority to Modify Rates for Retail Electric Service and Retail  
Natural Gas Service in Wisconsin

4220-UR-110

**NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION, PREHEARING CONFERENCE,  
AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

On November 14, 1997, Northern States Power Company-Wisconsin (NSPW) filed an application, under ss. 196.03, 196.20, and 196.37, Stats., to increase rates for retail electrical service and decrease rates of retail natural gas service. Included was the filing requirements, testimony, and exhibits to support NSPW's revenue requirements calculation. On December 18, 1997, NSPW filed the remaining required testimony and exhibits regarding electric and natural gas class cost of service studies, rate design, and demand-side management.

The application states in part:

1. NSPW's present rate schedule for electric service was authorized by this Commission in docket 4220-UR-109, by letter dated December 10, 1996.
2. NSPW's present rate schedule for natural gas service was authorized by this Commission in docket 4220-UR-109 in its order dated December 10, 1996.
3. This application is based on a 1998 test year. NSPW is requesting an increase in electric revenues of 4.3 percent and a decrease in natural gas revenues of 1.9 percent.
4. NSPW is proposing several modifications to its electric rates which will recover the indicated revenue deficiency (4.3 percent) and which will eliminate the natural gas indicated revenue excess (1.9 percent).
5. NSPW requests that an order on this application be issued as soon as possible and allow rates to become effective on such date.

6. All customers will be notified through a bill insert according to the provisions of s. PSC 2.73, Wis. Adm. Code.

Copies of NSPW's proposed testimony and exhibits were submitted with the application in accordance with the requirements of the Commission.

It is appropriate that a prehearing conference be scheduled at this time for the purpose of: (1) identifying the persons who will actively participate as full parties, (2) specifying dates for filing testimony and exhibits, (3) identifying and designating the issues, and (4) considering such other matters as will facilitate the hearing. Full parties will be bound by the designation of issues and the schedules adopted at the prehearing conference. Consequently, persons who consider themselves to be potential full parties should take part in the prehearing conference. If you intend to participate as a full party, please indicate such interest in writing to the Commission at P. O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854, if you have not already done so. Full party status must be requested in writing from the Examining Division pursuant to s. PSC 1.32(3), Wis. Adm. Code.

Copies of NSPW's application may be obtained by written request to NSPW at its offices at 100 North Barstow Street, P. O. Box 8, Eau Claire, WI 54701-0008.

This is a Type III action under s. PSC 4.10(3), Wis. Adm. Code. No unusual circumstances suggesting the likelihood of significant environmental consequences have come to the Commission's attention. Neither an environmental impact statement under s. 1.11, Stats., nor an environmental assessment is required.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this matter is a Class 1 proceeding. See s. 227.01(3)(a), Stats.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that a prehearing conference will be held on Thursday, March 12, 1998, at 1:30 p.m. in the Public Service Commission building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, for the purposes stated previously in this notice. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the first floor entrance on the front side (lobby) of the building. A sign in the lobby will indicate the room for the prehearing conference. Parking is available at the front entrance. Any party with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact Richard Teslaw at (608) 267-9766.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary in order to carry out its duties to investigate the books, accounts, practices, and activities of NSPW. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to the investigation will be assessed against and collected from NSPW, in accordance with the provisions of s. 196.85, Stats., and ch. PSC 5, Wis. Adm. Code.

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If there are any questions regarding the prehearing conference scheduled in this notice, please contact the Examining Division, at (608) 266-1261.

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Other questions regarding this matter may be directed to Richard Kliebenstein, Case Coordinator, at (608) 267-3598.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

For the Commission.

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Susan E. Stratton  
Administrator  
Electric Division

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